

New Covid Quarantine Rules
October 25, 2021

<https://www.13abc.com/2021/10/25/new-covid-19-quarantine-guidance-issued-ohio-schools/>

Here's a summation from this brief news announcement per the video of Dr. Bruce Vanderhoff, Director of the Ohio Health Department:

There are 2 options:

Option 1: Mask to stay. If you are exposed in a classroom setting, regardless of wearing a mask or vax status, you may stay in the classroom IF: a) you wear a mask for 14 days after the last date of exposure; b) self or parent monitor for symptoms; c) isolate & test if you get symptoms; d) you may discontinue these protocols after 7 days if: 1) you don't develop symptoms AND, 2) you test negative between days 5-7.

Option 2: Test to Play: You can participate in extracurricular activities following an exposure in the classroom or the school related environment (his words not mine) under these conditions: If you're asymptomatic you may continue your extracurriculars if one:
1st: wears a mask when able;
2nd: tests immediately upon notification of exposure;
3rd: tests again between days 5-7 (then the video cuts off)

This is all an improvement however, in Option 2, if you're wearing a mask "when able", what are you supposed to do when you're "not able"? Very vague there. And again, it's expecting that covid only exists in the classroom for some reason. If you get this from being at the grocery store, these new rules apparently don't apply. That I cannot explain.

What I see as good news here is the lightning up of quarantining a little bit. This should help even further to keep more kids in school than out.

The Board may not have to wait to meet over this as Mr. Hosler, per Board policy, can make such sweeping health decisions for our District. Sometimes expediency is vital and to wait for a Board meeting isn't prudent.

What this seems to mean is that we can go back to "masks optional". I am waiting more direction from our own Health Department of Wood County, our head nurse, and our superintendent for clarification on that so let's wait a moment and see where this goes before ripping off masks. The School policy of wearing masks while anywhere inside a campus building is currently still in play as of this writing, 3:28pm, Monday, October 25, 2021 and needs to be followed until further notice.